



# HCBS TRANSITION

## Stakeholder Advisory Group

Inaugural Meeting

February 29, 2016

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### Introduction of Mary Lou Cioffi

- Residential care administrator for 10 years
- Family member of consumer of services
- Practiced law in Brunswick for 17 years

### In this part of the agenda I will:

- Talk briefly about the structure and purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Process. Towards the end of the meeting I will talk more specifically about the next meeting, so this is just an overview.
- So, if/when I refer to “we” in this presentation, I mean the collective “we”, all of us trying to figure this out and make it work for everyone

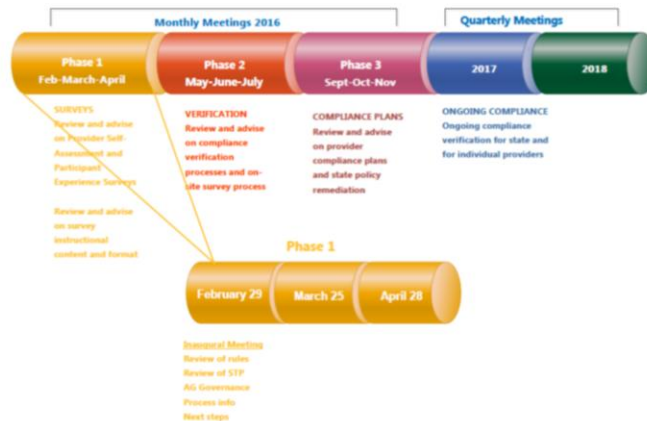
# Stakeholder Engagement



- The goal of engaging stakeholders is to create a process of shared learning, especially for a project like this, the success of which really does hinge on creating tools and processes that function smoothly, have integrity, and achieve the results that are needed.
- Ultimately, all of us working on this initiative want to achieve compliance for providers and for the system by March, 2019 in a way that is meaningful, functional, and cost-efficient for all stakeholders.
- There are many ways to approach transitioning to compliance and Maine wants to make sure that the process and the outcomes work for consumers, for providers, and for the state.
- CMS requires public comment, but it has not been prescriptive about how that is achieved.
- There is flexibility in how the state engages persons outside of government who can contribute their experience, knowledge, and expertise to help guide the process.

- The structure of the stakeholder engagement is two-part: The Steering Committee made up of persons with seniority at DHHS who have expertise with the HCBS waiver programs and the state licensing and reimbursement processes.
- And the Advisory Groups of all of you: the consumers, the advocates, and the service providers.
- As written out in the Charter, the Steering Committee will receive input from the Advisory Group throughout this process and make final decisions about the steps necessary to meet federal requirements and achieve compliance within the time frames outlined by CMS.

# Advisory Group Meetings



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- This is the graphic that was forwarded along with the meeting materials and there is a copy in your folders.
- It is an outline of the work that needs to be done in the months ahead
- This information will change and be updated as we move along and I can plan to send updated versions to all of you with meeting materials for future meetings.
- It is anticipated that the AG will meet monthly throughout this coming year (except

August and December)

- And then meet quarterly through 2017, those this plan may change.
- Some of the work is sequential, but much of it will overlap. This is particularly true as a result of some recently issued deadlines from CMS, which we will talk about in the next agenda item.

# Advisory Group Meeting Schedule

Month	Date	Time	Place	Telephone Access
2016				
Feb	Monday February 29, 2016	2pm - 4pm	Burton M. Cross Office Building 111 Seavall St. Augusta, ME Room 103 A/B	Telephone number: <a href="tel:1-877-455-0244">1-877-455-0244</a> Conference line # <a href="tel:203-889-2814">203-889-2814</a>
March	Friday March 25, 2016	2pm - 4pm	Burton M. Cross Office Building 111 Seavall St. Augusta, ME Room 103 A/B	Telephone number: <a href="tel:1-877-455-0244">1-877-455-0244</a> Conference line # <a href="tel:203-889-2814">203-889-2814</a>
April	Thursday April 28, 2016	12:30 - 2:30 pm	Burton M. Cross Office Building 111 Seavall St. Augusta, ME Room 103 A/B	Telephone number: <a href="tel:1-877-455-0244">1-877-455-0244</a> Conference line # <a href="tel:203-889-2814">203-889-2814</a>
May	TSO			
June	TSO			
July	TSO			



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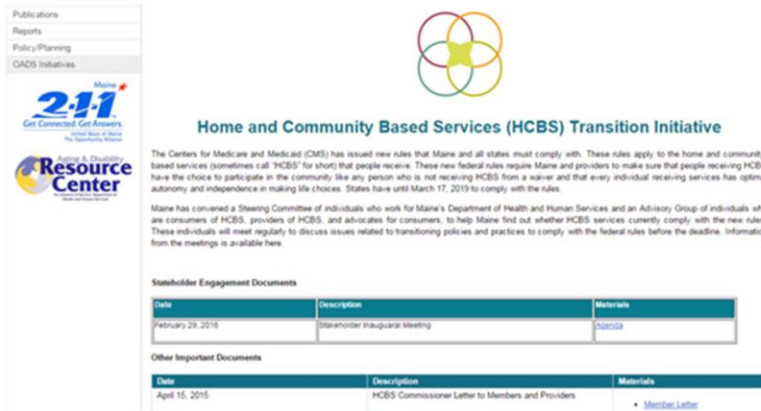
- This information is in your folders.
- Save the Date notices will be sent out, but it would be helpful if you would make note of these dates soon so that as many of you as possible will be able to attend.
- The summer dates should be available within the next week or so.
- As we mentioned, today's meeting is an overview. At next month's meeting the provider self-assessment survey format and questions and discuss the content and process for distributing those starting in May of this year. More on that later on in our agenda.
- You all may find that it would be helpful for additional meetings to be scheduled in between the monthly meeting dates. Maine is open to that idea if it is necessary to move the process along and/or make the discussions more meaningful. We would want your input and feedback about that.
- The current plan is to have the notes of the discussions and the recommendations of the Advisory Group summarized and likely posted on the Maine.gov website for

future reference and so that the public has access to the information that comes out of the Group.

- And also, as we will do today, any Q & A period of each meeting will be transcribed and posted for future reference.

# Website Content

The link is in your materials



Publications  
Reports  
Policy/Planning  
OADS Initiatives

2-1-1  
Get Connected. Get Answers.  
Maine's 2-1-1  
Active & Disability  
Resource Center

## Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Transition Initiative

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) has issued new rules that Maine and all states must comply with. These rules apply to the home and community-based services (sometimes call "HCBS" for short) that people receive. These new federal rules require Maine and providers to make sure that people receiving HCBS have the choice to participate in the community like any person who is not receiving HCBS from a waiver and that every individual receiving services has optimal autonomy and independence in making life choices. States have until March 17, 2019 to comply with the rules.

Maine has convened a Steering Committee of individuals who work for Maine's Department of Health and Human Services and an Advisory Group of individuals who are consumers of HCBS, providers of HCBS, and advocates for consumers, to help Maine find out whether HCBS services currently comply with the new rules. These individuals will meet regularly to discuss issues related to transitioning policies and practices to comply with the federal rules before the deadline. Information from the meetings is available here.

### Stakeholder Engagement Documents

Date	Description	Materials
February 29, 2018	Stakeholder Inaugural Meeting	<a href="#">None</a>

### Other Important Documents

Date	Description	Materials
April 15, 2015	HCBS Commissioner Letter to Members and Providers	<a href="#">Member Letter</a>

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- From the beginning there have been links to HCBS Transition information both on the OMS and on OADS websites
- OMS links to OADS and the bulk of the information is housed at OADS
- Maine has added a section for information on this Stakeholder Advisory Group process and the meeting information. It will contain:
  - Copies of the agendas
  - We will have the transcribed Q & A
  - We will have meeting summaries available
- This part of the website content will be organized by meeting date so that when the transition process is further down the road, someone just getting acquainted with the project will be able to go back and review



# Website Content

The link is in your materials

email address for questions and comments

**HCBS@maine.gov**



- Maine is setting up an email address for HCBS comments and questions and that should be up and running shortly. We will send out notices of the address and there will be a link to it on the HCBS
- That email address is [HCBS@maine.gov](mailto:HCBS@maine.gov)
- You can email questions and comments that come to mind in between meetings or at any other time.
- You can encourage others to participate in the conversation as well. Perhaps we can plan to discuss at upcoming meetings how best to handle questions and comments that come up in that forum so that folks can rely on getting a reply/response from the person(s) that can best help them.
- As we move along in this project, we can evaluate whether this email address is an effective vehicle for public input. It sounds like this method has been used for other projects in the past.